

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1850

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3483

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAG: PFOR NATO UR DA

SUBJECT: SOVIETS REPLY TO FOREIGN MINISTER ON NEED TO MAINTAIN DEFENSE

REF: A) COPENHAGEN 3328 (NOTAL (BEING REPEATED OTHER ADDEES)

B) COPENHAGEN 3113 (NOTAL)

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

SUMMARY: A SOVIET JOURNAL HAS CRITICIZED FOREIGN MINISTER

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ANDERSEN'S RECENT NEWSPAPER ARTICLE WARNING AGAINST UNILATERAL

REDUCTIONS IN WESTERN DEFENSES. THE ANDERSEN ARTICLE IS ONLY ONE OF A NUMBER OF RECENT EXAMPLES OF DANISH VEXATION OF THE SOVIETS. END SUMMARY. END CONFIDENTIAL

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1) FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN'S ANALYSIS OF DETENTE WHICH APPEARED HERE IN THE PRESS ON THE EVE OF THE VISIT TO WASHINGTON BY PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN (REF A) HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN ATTACKED IN THE SOVIET PERIODICAL, NOVOJE VREMJA. THE ARTICLE--WHICH REFRAINED FROM MENTIONING ANDERSEN BY NAME--WAS REPRODUCED IN THE NOVEMBER 24 ISSUE OF BERLINGSKE TIDENDE (INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE), THE SAME DANISH DAILY THAT CARRIED ANDERSEN'S ORIGINAL ANALYSS ON NOVEMBER 11.

2) NOVOJE VREMJA STATED THAT ANDERSEN'S ATTRIBUTING "INTENTIONS AND ATTITUDES TO THE OTHER SIDE WHICH IT DOES NOT HOLD IS NOT IN THE BEST DIPLOMATIC STYLE...(PARTICULARLY WHEN HE STRESSES THAT) THE EASTERN COUNTRIES ARE DICTATORSHIPS."

3) THE SOVIET PERIODICAL RECALLED ANDERSEN'S STATEMENT THAT THE DANISH MFA HAD ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL WORKING GROUP TO FOLLOW UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CSCE FINAL ACT. NOVOJE VREMJA SUGGESTED "THE NEED FOR ANOTHER 'SPECIAL WORKING GROUP' WHICH COULD GET OBSOLETE DOGMAS FROM THE ERA BEFORE HELSINKI OUT OF THE HEADS OF SOME (DANISH) POLITICIANS." END UNCLASSIFIED

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4) COMMENT. THE DANES HAVE SUCCEEDED IN VEXING THE SOVIETS ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS RECENTLY: THE SAKHAROV REARING (REF B) WHICH APPARENTLY PROVOKED MORE THAN ROUTINE SOVIET PROTESTS; OUTSPOKEN DANISH SUPPORT FOR SOARES' SOCIALISTS IN PORTUGAL AND EXPRESSION OF CONCERN OVER COMMUNIST TAKEOVER THERE; AND DANISH PURCHASE OF THE F-16. (THERE HAVE BEEN UNSUBSTANTIATED RUMORS HERE TO THE EFFECT THAT WHILE THE SOVIETS OBVIOUSLY WOULD HAVE PREFERRED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT THE DANES BUY NO NEW AIRCRAFT, THE FORMER QUIETLY SUGGESTED THAT IF A PURCHASE SHOULD TAKE PLACE THE VIGGEN MADE THE MOST SENSE BECAUSE OF SAAB-SCANIA'S GENEROUS OFFSET OFFER).

5) THE SOVIETS WERE PROBABLY FURTHER ANNOYED BY JORGENSEN'S CALL ON THE PRESIDENT AND THE FORMER'S CHARACTERIZATION OF HIM AS "THE NATURAL LEADER"

OF THE WESTERN WORLD. FINALLY,THE SOVIETS CANNOT HAVE
BEEN PLEASED BY THE CONSERVATIVE (AND STRONGLY PRO-NATO)
POSTURE TAKEN BY THE PRESENT SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERN-
MENT IN CONTRAST WITH JOEGENSE'S EARLIER (1971-73)
COOPERATION WITH THE SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S PARTY.
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